And then you come to the fifth point, namely, nomination of a Paraya member to the Legislative Council. The number of seats available for nomination is strictly limited and has already been apportioned out to various communities, and I am sorry that there is no seat available for any more members of the depressed classes in the Council as at present constituted.

Then you come to the law of succession and inheritance. Enquiries in this direction are being made in relation to the Pulayas. I will have the case of the Parayas also considered in connection with this enquiry.

About your representation regarding the supply of books to poor pupils, I shall consult the Director of Public Instruction to see whether some arrangement can be come to by which they will not have to change their books from year to year.

156. Concessions to the Kammalas.

MR. T. P. KOCHUMMINI ASARI (*Member, Nominated*) said that a member of the Kammala community should be nominated to the Legislative Council and that he should be asked to introduce into the Council a bill to regulate the system of succession and inheritance among the Kammalas. The necessity for a legislation of the kind was represented at the previous session of the Assembly also.

Secondly, the member said that the Kammalas formed the chief artisan class in the country, but they were sadly lacking in the possession of landed properties. Poramboke and Puduval lands should therefore be registered in their names on concessional terms.

Thirdly, the members of the Kammala community should be exempted from the operation of the rule regarding age-bar in respect of Government appointments and they should be freely entertained in the service even when they did not possess the prescribed examination qualifications.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kochummini Asari, as you proceeded with your first representation it became clear to me that you had not read what I said on the subject at the last session of the Assembly although you referred to what I said and your reference clearly showed that you had not been correctly acquainted with what I actually said. I have nothing more to add to what I said last year.

In regard to the nomination of a Kammala member to the next Legislative Council, there are only seven seats in the Council open to nomination and in the course of today fully that number asked to be nominated to one or more seats in the Council; and there are some nominated members already sitting.

The other points taken up in the representation will be dealt with in due course and replies sent to you.

157. Needs of the Chalya community.

MR V. SUBRAHMONIAM (*Member, Municipal Council, Nagercoil*) said that the Chalya community, given entirely to their traditional profession of weaving, was lagging very far behind the other communities. In regard to weaving, Government had made some attempt to improve their lot by establishing a Technical Institute at Nagercoil and by appointing a Textile Expert to advise them on modern methods of weaving. But neither of these measures was producing the desired effect. The managers of the Technical Institute were not acquainted with the habits and manners of the weaving classes and hence could not give them much help. Nor could the weavers derive much help from the Textile Expert. The Chalyas as a class were a very conservative set of people. Wedded from birth to their old pit-looms they were slow to make use of the accessories and implements of the foreigners. Not only that they could not look up with confidence to the guidance of other people. The member hence proposed that two Chalya candidates might be sent at least once in five years to some of the well-known weaving institutions at Bombay or Ahmadabad and there given training in weaving. On their advice Government should distribute improved types of looms and loom-accessories to the weaving classes. As regards the Technical Institute at Nagercoil, it should be placed under the management of a committee, the majority of which should be taken from among the Chalyas.

The member next referred to the two Chalya co-operative societies organised recently and requested that Government should give them the necessary help at all times.

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Touching the educational advancement of the Chalyas, the member said that the present fee-concession committees were not functioning well. Many of the pupils who sought their help were really poor, but the committees often failed to appreciate their needs. The member advocated that all pupils of the Chalya community might, as a class, be exempted from the payment of fees at least in the Middle School classes. In the matter of higher education, as a means of encouraging it among the Chalyas, qualified candidates among them should be freely appointed in the Government service.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Subrahmanyam, poor Chaliya students already enjoy the privilege of half-fee concessions. The system of fee concessions cannot be extended any further to whatsoever community. So I am afraid anything beyond what the community at present enjoys cannot be reasonably expected.

There is no necessity for equipping two Chaliya candidates with scholarships in some well known weaving factories in India. As you yourself said the Chaliya community does not like to go to places of instruction and does not like new methods since there are communal differences. If that difference is felt even in Nagercoil, how much more will the difference be felt in distant parts of India where conditions are so different. However I am glad to say that the Chaliya community has been benefited to some extent from the assistance of the Department of Industries both in the weaving school and from the itinerant weaving parties. The Director informs me that they are taking steps to give them shuttles and other modern forms of weaving appliances.

You request that a committee or advisory body of Chaliyas be entrusted with the management of the Sri Mulam Technical Institute, Nagercoil. You do not at the same time suggest how the Government is going to exercise control over the same body.

Your representation in the matter of co-operative societies had better be taken to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies who is in a position to help you in the matter.

Lastly, in the matter of public service, you have heard both yesterday and today what I have to say on that subject.

The Assembly adjourned at 5 P. M. to meet again at 11-30 A. M. on Thursday, the 8th March 1928.

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